CAREGIVER BACKGROUND CHECK PILOT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

F. Fees/ Other Costs

F1. Exactly what cost will be paid by the state for the Federal criminal background checks?

Providers covered by the existing Caregiver Law (nursing homes, LTC hospitals, ICF/MRs, CBRFs with 9+ beds, hospice, and home health agencies) will continue to pay the current online name-based rate. The state will use pilot funds to cover the additional fees associated with the fingerprint-based background checks.

Providers will continue to pay the current online name-based rate:

Non-profit Agencies	\$4.50
Government Agencies	\$7.50
Private, For-Profit Agencies	\$15.50

The state will use pilot funds to cover the additional costs associated with the fingerprint-based background checks:

Promissor Fingerprint Scanning Fee	\$18.00
State Fingerprint Search	+ \$15.00
FBI Background Check (NCIC)	+ \$24.00
Caregiver BC fee	+ see above
Total Costs	\$61.50 to \$72.50
- DOJ waived state fingerprint search	- \$15.00
- Provider Paid Caregiver BC fee	- see above
Fees paid by DHFS Pilot	\$42.00

The name-based Caregiver Background Check fee will be waived for PCW-only providers.

F2. Will providers be responsible for undetermined costs? i.e., the cost of traveling to and from the scanning site?... the cost of time and paperwork?

Yes. The pilot funds will not be used to reimburse providers or newly hired caregivers for the cost of travel or wages associated with this pilot.

DHFS will use the pilot funding to cover the additional costs of the fingerprinting, all of the training development and implementation, data analysis and reporting.

In exchange for a more in-depth background check and for abuse prevention training, providers will be responsible for some additional paperwork.

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F3. The costs of travel in rural parts of the state may be substantial, especially when caregivers are asked to drive up to 50 miles to get fingerprinted. This seems like an undue burden.

F3. The costs of travel in rural parts of the purpose of the pilot is to test the efficacy of a federal fingerprint policy. One of the items that will be studied is whether requiring fingerprinting is too difficult. The difficulty of reaching especially when caregivers are asked the fingerprint site for rural caregiver will be one of the issues studied in the evaluation.

F4. Does the employer have to pay the new hire to get fingerprinted?

This decision will depend on the employer. As with the current caregiver law, providers have the flexibility to determine when the background check is completed.

If the background check is done as a condition of hire, the applicant may be responsible for transportation to and from the scanning site. If the background check is done once the individual is hired, the employer may be liable to cover the costs of transportation to and from the scanning site. Providers should use this information to determine when they plan to conduct the fingerprint-based background check.

The pilot does not require all applicants to go through a fingerprint-based background check. Prospective caregiver employees are required to get a fingerprint-based background check. For most employers that will mean sending only the top candidate to get fingerprinted.